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EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT  
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### *Cable Highlights*

Wednesday, April 10, 2002  
0530 EDT

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#### **VENEZUELA: WORK STOPPAGE EFFECTIVE**

(U) Around 80 percent of Caracas businesses, all banks, all shopping malls, and most schools were closed April 9. However, pro-government supporters at certain key locations in the city were well-organized and vocal while an opposition presence was non-existent. Opposition lawmakers also boycotted the National Assembly session, but pro-government delegates still achieved a working quorum. The opposition will find it difficult to sustain support without more visible success. Labor and business leaders decided to extend the work stoppage through the morning of April 11. (Caracas 948)

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